

to preside at the entertainment (applause). His Worship's presence proved that the people of the Empire City took a deep interest and pride in the work and progress of the institution. He begged to compliment the students on the admirable entertainment given by them that evening, which was a real musical treat. In thanking them he was sure he was interpreting the feelings of the large audience, for it reflected the greatest credit on the performers and on their able teacher. Whenever he came there to see how well they had done, to applaud their victories, it was with the hope that when they left the institution they would gain still greater victories when they went into the world. For what they were in the college was an earnest of what they would be in the future. The virtuous youth grew up a virtuous man, and the perfect youth became the perfect man. They were here in a young and promising country that had a grand future before it if its citizens were rightly prepared to grasp it. They were living here in a very democratic country, under a very democratic form of democratic government, and it was more necessary therefore that the citizens should understand their duties and responsibilities, for everyone was expected to take a share of the work, so that the result might be in the direction of true progress and civilisation. And as the only reliable source of true and solid virtue, of true and solid patriotism, and true and enduring devotedness the common ideal was religion, religion ought to pervade and be worked into the very warp and woof of the whole texture of society, and hence, any education in which the element of religion did not fairly predominate was not a complete education; it did not deserve the name of education. What, he asked, could set a limit to the progress of these fair lands of Australasia?

The best blood of the most noble races of the globe ran in the veins of their inhabitants; they had qualities amongst the very best in their nature, the very qualities requisite to bring out all the material resources of this fair land. Those qualities were: Energy, self-reliance, sobriety, perseverance. And then in this country religion was free and Almighty God had given them a glorious destiny, glorious to themselves and beneficent to the world, and that destiny was to work out, under the guidance of religion, an ideal of civilization higher than had ever been seen yet in any part of the world (applause). Their people had the love of liberty, and liberty was all powerful in bringing forth the energies of mankind. They had the spirit of enterprise and noble and generous aspirations, sometimes, indeed, misguided, but certainly such aspirations were calculated, when under the guidance and care and direction and ennoblement of religion, to lead to a degree of civilization unparalleled in the history of the world (applause). And how would this want, which was perhaps the only thing that Australasia required for the consummation of her future greatness, be supplied except by Christianity? There alone was the security for true, great, lasting and immortal civilization. When they looked around through the world and through history they saw that all things faded away and disappeared, but the Church remained in her divine unchangeableness, the divine organization, and therefore suited and equal to every need of humanity. In every time she has shown her adaptability to all the needs of the human race. She leavened and Christianized the corrupt Roman civilisation, she tamed the fierce hordes of barbarians, she founded Christian Europe, and 400 years ago she took in hand the wild and savage tribes of South America, and instead of exterminating them by ram and powder, as the Anglo-Saxons so often did, she put them in possession of an amount of civilisation and of freedom that was in keeping with their wild and untamable natures. And now she saw the Church, under the guidance of one of the most learned, most liberal and most intelligent Pontiffs that ever sat in the chair of St. Peter, girding herself for her next great conquest, and that was to spiritualise and hallow the progress and enlightenment of this age to sanctify and ennoble, and elevate and sublimate the material progress of their day, for belief in the invisible and faith in the supernatural was the great need of the future, as the late and great Gladstone repeated with his dying lips (applause). He asked the boys therefore, now and in their after life, to study the grand old Mother Church, to be proud of her achievements in the long course of 19 centuries, proud of the part she had taken in bringing about true happiness, progress and freedom. They had the inestimable advantage in this land to be born free, in the thralldom of no man, to be only in the bondage of God, whose service was above all sovereignty. Let them be independent, manly and firm, and temper their manliness with Christian devotedness and charity. In conclusion he proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding (applause).

BISHOP WALLIS SPEAKS.

Bishop Wallis, in seconding the vote of thanks said, in referring to Master Moran's speech on '98, that he did not imagine that when another '98 came, he, an Anglican Bishop, would stand before such a Catholic audience as that (applause). However, he could not refuse the Rector's invitation to be present and in common with the whole of the audience he had spent a very enjoyable evening. When they went to school entertainments they hoped only to see promise of good in future years, but here that was realised, and if the students did all their work as well as they performed their musical work that evening he considered the College was in a very happy position (applause). They were taught many lessons as years went by, but he did not think they were taught to give up one iota of that truth which they had learnt to hold so dear. Their kind invitation to him did not mean that they accounted the differences that separated them of small moment—he did not think for a moment they were—but that they had learnt, that the best thing was to speak the truth in life, that by learning to understand one another and to sympathise with one another they were more likely to arrive at the perfect truth which God meant to teach them (applause). They were not ashamed to put Christianity in the forefront in the school, and therefore he could not but wish the school every success, and he wished the boys a thoroughly good and happy holiday (renewed applause).

DR. WATTERS SPEAKS.

Before the resolution was put to the meeting, the Very Rev. Dr. Watters, Rector, said he had a few remarks to make. Letters of apology for non-attendance had been received from the Premier, Mrs. and the Misses Seddon, the Minister of Lands, and the Minister of Justice. He referred in very complimentary terms of the painstaking manner in which Mr. Trowell carried out his duties as musical instructor to the students, whom he had at their lessons at 7 o'clock every morning. But they should not suppose that their only occupation was

'To sport with Amaryllis in the shade,
Or with the tangles of Neera's hair.'

They also took their part, with more or less success, in public examinations—matriculation, junior and senior civil service, and scholarships, and Trinity College musical examinations. Though they dropped a few in the path they generally counted some, and though they could not point to perfect success, at least they tried to attain it (applause). The spirit of the College had been good; they had close on 150 students, nearly 100 of whom lived within the walls, and the spirit that prevailed among the boys was almost up to expectations—not quite (laughter and applause).

THE MAYOR SPEAKS.

The vote of thanks to the Mayor was then carried by acclamation. His Worship in responding, said in reference to the speech on '98, that he read history in a different light to other people, for instead of England conquering Ireland, he held that Ireland and Scotland had conquered her, for had not the latter given the British Empire Gladstone, and the former the Commander-in-Chief of the British Army. Turning to St. Patrick's College, he said it was the principal Catholic educational institution in New Zealand, and, although he was connected with institutions in which the religious element did not prevail, it did not prevent him from realising and appreciating the influence which the boys derived from the cultivation of the æsthetic side of education. The whole tendency of the age was in a material direction, and everything now was based upon what it would fetch in the money market. Anything that tended to mitigate and soften down that tendency was of the utmost value in any educational system. He could say that without any reservation whatever. He had enjoyed the evening's entertainment very much indeed, and he had the utmost goodwill towards St. Patrick's College (applause). That institution might reasonably be reckoned to turn out a fair proportion of leaders of the community, and it was of the utmost importance that youths who would in the future be leaders of the community should take to heart the weighty and judicious words which His Grace the Archbishop had addressed to them. He thanked them for the reception they had accorded him (applause).

At the conclusion of the proceedings cheers were given for His Grace the Archbishop, Bishop Wallis, and the Mayor, and the Very Rev. Dr. Watters.

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our HAWERA correspondent.)

THE first of a number of socials, which it is intended to hold during the winter months, took place in the Opera House on Tuesday evening, 14th. The attendance was very good, and everything passed off most enjoyably. Dancing was interspersed with songs by Mr. Johnson, two splendid items by Professor Higham's orchestra, and a violin solo by Miss Winnie Connell. The dance music was supplied by Miss Flynn, assisted by Misses Espagne, Haughey, and Katie Flynn. A large committee, consisting of Messrs. Douglas and Whitaker, Misses Flynn and O'Neill, Messrs. Higham and Russell, carried out all necessary arrangements with entire satisfaction. Messrs. O'Connor and N. McCarthy made most efficient M.C.'s. The funds raised by these socials are to go towards improving the school, which is now far too small to accommodate the number of scholars.

Sunday last, being within the Octave of Corpus Christi, was a special day of prayer. After 11 o'clock Mass a procession of the Most Blessed Sacrament took place, and adoration was continued throughout the day, large numbers attending. The altar was beautifully decorated by the Sisters of St. Joseph. The celebrant was Rev. Father O'Dogherty, of Wellington, who is at present relieving Rev. Father O'Mara, who is taking a holiday. In the evening Rev. Father O'Dogherty delivered a fine sermon on Devotion to the most Holy Sacrament. The Mass rendered by the choir consisted of portions of Mozart's 7th, and Rev. Murphy's, and was given in the usual good style of the choir. At Vespers and Benediction special music was sung, the 'Litany' and 'Tantum Ergo,' being Professor Higham's compositions. After the sermon, Mr. Thomas Curran, of M-Minn's Minstrels, sang a solo most effectively.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(By telegraph from our own correspondent.)

At the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, on Sunday morning, the Feast of the Sacred Heart was observed with special devotion. The Bishop attended 10 o'clock Mass and preached an eloquent sermon on the Devotion of the Sacred Heart. The Rev. Dr. Egan sang High Mass, and Rev. Father Gillan directed the ceremonies. At the

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